

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-13

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R 301045Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3280

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 261

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 4490

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG UNESCO OCON SZ

SUBJ: SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S INCLUSION IN UNESCO EUROPEAN
REGION

REF: STATE 236478 AND 239458

1. SUMMARY: SWISS RECENTLY MADE DEMARCHE WITH AUSTRIANS
AND NORWEGIANS TO UNESCO DELEGATIONS IN SUPPORT ISRAEL'S
INCLUSION EUROPEAN REGION. SWISS CONCLUDE OUTLOOK EN-
COURAGING BUT DECISIVE FACTOR WILL BE ATTITUDE USSR AND EAST
EUROPEANS WHICH EXPECT CAST NEGATIVE VOTE; BELIEVE
ONLY US CAN CONVINCE SOVIETS AT LEAST ABSTAIN. SWISS
SUPPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION THAT REGIONAL
VIEWS PREVAIL ON ASSIGNMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH DR PAUL STAUFFER,
CHIEF CULTURAL AND UNESCO AFFAIRS, FEDERAL POLITICAL
DEPT, AS INSTRUCTED REFTTEL. STAUFFER SAID SWISS
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UNESCO AMB IN CONJUNCTION WITH AUSTRIAN AND NORWEGIAN

AMBS HAD MADE SPECIAL DEMARCHE TO OTHER DELEGATIONS SUPPORTING ISRAEL'S INCLUSION EUROPEAN REGION. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH LATIN AMERICANS, ASIANS AND AFRICANS, THE THREE AMBS RECEIVED GENERALLY ENCOURAGING RESPONSES; MANY INTENDED ABSTAIN, FEW NEGATIVE VOTES PLANNED. STAUFFER SAID EGYPTIANS TOOK CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE, IMPLIED THEY MIGHT EVEN ABSTAIN. PRINCIPAL STUMBLING BLOCK REMAINS ATTITUDE USSR AND OTHER EAST EUROPEANS. STAUFFER ANTICIPATED NEGATIVE SOVIET VOTE IN SUPPORT ARABS, IN WHICH CASE HE BELIEVED COUNTRIES LIKE EGYPT COULD NOT ABSTAIN. HE ACKNOWLEDGED ROMANIA HAS BEEN SPECIAL CASE RE ISRAEL.

3. STAUFFER SAID ONLY US IN POSITION URGE SOVIETS ABSTAIN WITH HOPE POSITIVE RESPONSE. SWISS DO NOT PLAN FURTHER DEMARCHE THIS ISSUE AND SPECIFICALLY RULED OUT ANY DEMARCHE TO EE'S.

4. RE EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION STAUFFER UNDERSTOOD THAT GENERAL CONFERENCE WOULD DEFER TO VIEWS EUROPEAN REGIONAL MEMBERS PROVIDED LARGE MAJORITY MEMBERS SUPPORT ISRAEL'S INCLUSIONS. SWISS SUPPORT THIS APPROACH BUT AGREE ATTITUDE EE'S AND ARABS CRUCIAL.

5. STAUFFER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION EARLY CONSULTATION THIS ISSUE; HE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN QUESTION US ARREARS AND EXCEPTIONAL PAYMENT TO RESTORE VOTE FOR 19TH GC. HE NOTED SWISS PARLIAMENT ALSO VOTED WITHHOLD 10 PERCENT SWISS DUES RESULT UNESCO VOTING ON ISRAEL.
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